



**Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Policy Workgroup**

August 27, 2019

10:00 AM

Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council

1951 W. Camelback Road, Suite 202

Phoenix, AZ 85015

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Policy Workgroup (PW) was convened on August 27, 2019 at the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (7)	
Elizabeth Burton Ortiz, Co-Chair, Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council	
Maria Cristina Fuentes, Co-Chair, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family [Telephonic]	
Andy LeFevre, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission	
Dawn Mertz, Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area	
Jeff Beaver, Maricopa County Attorney's Office	
Merilee Fowler, MATFORCE	
Ozius Shaw, National Guard Counter Drug Taskforce [Proxy for Paul Aguirre]	
Staff/Guests Present (3)	Members Absent (3)
Samuel Burba, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Wanda Wright, Arizona Department of Veterans Service
Nelson Bunn, National District Attorneys Association (NDAA)	Cara Christ, Arizona Department of Health Services
Hayley Zimmerman, Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council (until 10:30 a.m.)	Shana Malone, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Call to Order

- Elizabeth Burton Ortiz, Co-Chairperson, requested that Samuel Burba conduct a roll call to confirm quorum. Co-Chairperson Ortiz called the PW meeting to order at 10:00 AM with 7 members and 3 staff/members of the public present.

Welcome and Introduction

- Co-Chairperson Ortiz welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for being a part of the Policy Workgroup.

Review of Minutes

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** requested a review of the June 12, 2019 meeting minutes.
 - **Andy LeFevre** motioned to accept the April 26, 2019 minutes without revision.
 - **Merilee Fowler** seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Data Sharing at the Federal Level

- **Nelson Bunn**, Executive Director of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), provided a presentation on data driven decision-making. **Mr. Bunn** stated that technology continues to evolve quickly, bringing with it positive and potentially negative consequences—the question is how to embrace the use of technology and the potential data that comes with it, while understanding the limitations of data. National-level conversations continue to focus more and more on the use of data to inform the decision-making process, regardless of industry—better healthcare decisions for your loved ones, better programming for incarcerated individuals who will return to their communities, or a better understanding of the life cycle of an infrastructure project
- **Mr. Bunn** stated that in the criminal justice system, prosecutors have embraced data driven decision making and are already taking steps to increase transparency with the communities they serve. One recent example is the recent launch by the San Francisco DA's office of a website that provides years of prosecution data to the public. That same office announced it will use artificial intelligence to combat racial bias in sentencing. In North Carolina, the Administrative Office of the Courts has produced a tool to allow jurisdictions to dismiss cases faster by modernizing and cleaning up state court information and creating an integrated court information system that allows prosecutors to dismiss cases faster instead of a manual process. Earlier this year, NDAA took a group of elected prosecutors out to Microsoft headquarters to hear more about the ways in which technology and data are interacting and improving the criminal justice system and how NDAA can be a part of that solution.
- **Mr. Bunn** also discussed the importance of data in combating substance abuse stating that data and information sharing across agencies can tell us a lot, or demonstrate gaps, that are vitally important to understand in the context of substance use issues. For example, the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) offers the ability to collect both suspected fatal and non-fatal overdoses, in real time, across jurisdictions, to mobilize a cohesive and collaborative response (comes out of the Baltimore/Washington HIDTA) This allows notifications to go to local agencies when a spike in overdoses is detected across a geographical area—this is being driven by technology and algorithms with on the ground data.
- **Mr. Bunn** stated that another example of information sharing and collaboration across agencies is marrying the science of addiction with the services provided or offered to individuals. The Addiction Policy Forum (APF), a national organization based in Washington, DC, has developed countless resources in the substance use space that work to identify the intersection of science and the criminal justice system to address substance use disorders, mental health issues and co-occurring disorders.
- **Mr. Bunn** discussed the following challenges related to data sharing:
 - The size of agency or jurisdiction.
 - Larger offices can adopt innovative dashboards and engage in wide-ranging data collection at cost, while smaller and rural agencies/jurisdictions face financial and resource restrictions.
 - While we work to enhance and standardize data collection and adopt new technological solutions, we must remember that no two jurisdictions are the same. A one-size-fits all approach will not allow certain jurisdictions to meet our goals in data collection.

- **Mr. Bunn** concluded his presentation by stating that by working collaboratively, we can succeed in building on efforts to improve transparency and accountability across systems and agencies, and collaboratively identify successes and barriers to success for any challenges you may face.
- **Jeff Beaver** asked if **Mr. Bunn** was aware of a data system that can be used in the criminal justice system to assess when substance abuse treatment would be more effective than incarceration.
- **Mr. Bunn** stated that he was unaware of such a system stating that the closest thing to this is a risk to recidivate assessment. However, there is a lot of discussion on the validity of risk assessment tools. **Mr. Bunn** also stated that it is important to remember that there is not a one-size-fits-all approach.
- **Andy LeFevre** stated that while a data tool would be beneficial in determining treatment versus incarceration within the criminal justice system, it is his experience that a person will generally not seek treatment until they are ready. **Mr. LeFevre** stated that he appreciated the comments and assessment on methamphetamine use and the threat it posed to communities. ACJC is currently evaluating how they can include sustainable activities within their opioid funding that address multiple substances such as opioids and methamphetamines. **Mr. LeFevre** asked what other states are doing to navigate challenges in sharing data.
- **Mr. Bunn** stated that Connecticut just passed a law in data sharing and transparency. **Mr. Bunn** did not go into details but stated he would share a one-page document with **Co-Chairperson Ortiz**. **Mr. Bunn** stated that he had not seen executive orders from other states targeted at resolving data-sharing issues. He further stated that HIPAA is commonly considered a barrier when sharing data. However, it has been his experience that often there is more data that can be shared under HIPAA regulation than what is being shared.
- **Mr. LeFevre** asked if **Mr. Bunn** was aware of other states using Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program to add special conditions on data requirements.
- **Mr. Bunn** stated that he was not aware of other states using Byrne JAG in this manner, however, he added that there is a bill that does include a penalty if jurisdictions do not share data. **Mr. Bunn** made it clear that he nor his office supports the bill.
- **Mr. LeFevre** stated that Yavapai County shares its data through its website and may be considered as an example of for the state.
- **Dawn Mertz** asked if Congress considered requirements on data sharing related to opioid overdoses.
- **Mr. Bunn** stated no, to his knowledge Congress has made no such consideration.
- **Ms. Mertz** asked if he had seen model state laws related to data sharing.
- **Mr. Bunn** stated no, there is not a model state law that he is aware of.
- ◆ ● **Mr. LeFevre** requested the workgroup consider recommendation related to state barriers that exist sharing data.
- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Co-Chairperson**, requested **Mr. Bunn** share with the group the Addiction Policy Forum video on the Brain Science of Addiction.
- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** thanked **Mr. Bunn** for his presentation stating that Arizona has strong representation on the National District Attorneys Association and his presentation and time are greatly valued.

Opioid Action Plan Policy Suggestions

- **Co-Chairperson Fuentes** requested that this agenda item be tabled until the Department of Health Services could be in the room to discuss the Opioid Action Plan.

2019 Meeting Schedule

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** asked **Samuel Burba** to review upcoming meeting dates. **Mr. Burba** notified the workgroup that the next meeting date is **Friday, October 25, 2019 beginning at 10:00 AM** and asked that members mark their calendars.

Future Agenda Items

- **Co-Chairperson Fuentes** requested that the following items be placed on the next meeting agenda.
 - ADHS Opioid Action Plan discussion on policy recommendations
 - Presentation from SANE
 - Data sharing presentation and discussion on potential recommendation from the group
- **Co-Chairperson Fuentes** requested additional agenda items be sent to **Samuel Burba**.

Call to the Public

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** conducted a call to the public. No members of the public addressed the workgroup.

Adjourn

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** adjourned the workgroup at 10:42 AM.

Dated the Twenty-Seventh day of August 2019

Policy Workgroup

Respectfully Submitted By:

Samuel Burba

Director of Substance Abuse Initiatives

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family